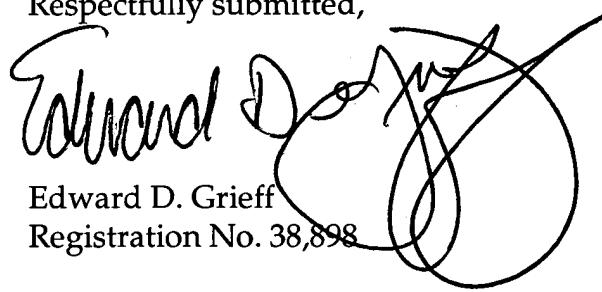


Preliminary Amendment
Continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/572,330

the specification. No issues of new matter should arise, and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

An early and favorable consideration and allowance of claims 35-56 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward D. Grieff". To the right of the signature, there is a large, roughly circular scribble or smudge, possibly a redaction or a mark.

Edward D. Grieff
Registration No. 38,898

Date: July 6, 2001
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